

**Amendments to the Specification**

**On page 1, line 1** please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a U.S. National Stage application of PCT Application No. PCT/FR04/01963, with an international filing date of July 22, 2004. Applicant claims priority based on French application serial no. 03 09629 filed August 4, 2003.

**On page 1, lines 8 – 10** please replace the current paragraph with the following paragraph:

The activated sludge technique uses a free biomass, in other words not attached to a support, in at least one pond or tank provided with aeration means.